

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 8-9 and 12-13, and cancel claims 5-7 and 10-11.

Listing of Claims:

1 - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A hydraulic system connecting first, second and third hydraulic motors in series ~~circuit connected to the exit of a first hydraulic motor~~ comprising:

a first solenoid-operated directional control valve that is energized by moving the [a] second hydraulic motor into an operating position causing the first solenoid-operated directional control valve to provide a first pilot signal to a first pilot-operated directional control valve that opens in response to the first pilot signal to direct hydraulic fluid from ~~the exit of~~ the first hydraulic motor to the second hydraulic motor; the first solenoid-operated directional control valve being de-energized by moving the second hydraulic motor into a non-operating position causing the first solenoid-operated directional control valve to end the pilot signal and the first pilot-operated directional control valve to close so that the hydraulic fluid from ~~the exit of~~ the first hydraulic motor bypasses the second hydraulic motor; and

a second solenoid-operated directional control valve that is energized by moving the [a] third hydraulic motor into an operating position causing the second solenoid-operated directional control valve to provide a second pilot signal to a second pilot-operated directional control valve that opens in response to the second pilot signal to direct hydraulic fluid from ~~the exit of~~ the first hydraulic motor to the third hydraulic motor; the second solenoid-operated directional control valve being de-energized by moving the third hydraulic motor into a non-operating position causing the second solenoid-operated directional control valve to end the pilot signal and the second pilot-operated directional control valve to close so that the hydraulic fluid from ~~the exit of~~ the first hydraulic motor bypasses the third hydraulic motor.

9. (Currently amended) The hydraulic system ~~circuit~~ of claim 8 wherein moving both

of the second and third hydraulic motors into their operating positions causes the first and second solenoid-operated directional control valves to provide pilot signals to the first and second pilot-operated directional control valves that open in response to the pilot signals to direct the hydraulic fluid from the exit of the first hydraulic motor to the second and third hydraulic motors in series.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A hydraulic system ~~An electro-hydraulic circuit~~ to provide hydraulic flow to a plurality of hydraulic motors ~~on a plurality of mower decks, the mower decks~~ movable between operating and non-operating positions, comprising:

a plurality of solenoid-operated control valves, each solenoid-operated control valve associated with a hydraulic motor ~~on a mower deck~~ and providing a pilot signal if the motor ~~mower deck~~ is in the operating position; and

a plurality of pilot operated control valves operatively connected to the solenoid-operated control valves; each pilot operated control valve opening hydraulic flow to one of the hydraulic motors in the presence of a pilot signal associated with that motor and closing hydraulic flow to the hydraulic motor in the absence of the pilot signal; the pilot operated control valves opening to provide hydraulic flow to the [a] plurality of hydraulic motors in series in the presence of a plurality of pilot signals.

13. (Currently amended) The hydraulic system ~~electro-hydraulic circuit~~ of claim 12 further comprising at least one hydraulic motor ~~on a mower deck~~ that is not associated with a solenoid-operated control valve.